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IDEA-0100-68
Copy 8 of 8

9 February 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: U-2R Tail Vibration

1. On 8 February prior to a meeting with Kelly Johnson and Dr. Lauderdale, Kelly commented that the recent problem of the U-2R tail vibration had been solved. While closely examining the tail section, the crew discovered that a 1/16 inch thick washer used at the point where the horizontal and vertical tail are joined was missing and the vertical tail could be easily shaken by hand. Consequently, with a much lower effective stiffness, flutter occurred at a very reduced velocity. Kelly didn't know whether or not this washer had ever been inserted. He did say, however, that they would probably increase the size of the horizontal torque tube just as a precautionary measure anyway.

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